A.—Sri M. V. KRISHNAPPA (Minister for Revenue).—

There was failure of crops to a certain extent in some of the villages of Ramdurg Taluk during the last 3 years. Five test scarcity works have been opened in order to provide employment to the people. The Soil Conservation Department has started contour bunding works at seven Centres in the Taluk. In addition to these, the Public Works Department have undertaken construction of minor irrigation tank at Guttigoli.

Daily wages to the Labourers employed under the Famine Relief works in Ramdurg Taluk.

**Q.*—127. Sri VEERABHADRAPPA ERAPPA (Yelburga).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

whether it is not a fact that the labourers employed under the famine relief works in Ramdurg Taulk are not even paid one rupee per head per day ?

A.—Sri M. V. KRISHNAPPA (Minister for Revenue).—

The average daily wages received by labourers on scarcity works in Ramadurg Taluk ranges from 75 nP. to Rs. 1-25 nP. These rates are fixed on task basis.

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2 P.M.

Appointment of the Leader of House.

SECRETARY.—The following letter No. LAW 62 LGN 62, dated 30th June 1962 is received from the Secretary to the Government of Mysore, Law Department, addressed to the Speaker, Mysore Legislative Assembly, Bangalore.

"I am directed to state that Sri S. Nijalingappa, Chief Minister, will be the Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly."

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Sri B. D. JATTI (Minister for Finance).—Sir, I beg to lay:

The Appropriation Accounts of the State of Mysore for 1960-61, the Audit Report, 1962 and the Finance Accounts for 1960-61, in pursuance of clause (2) of article 151 of the Constitution of India.

Member's Representation.

Sri S. SIVAPPA (Sravanabelagola).—I raise a point of order. I want to know when Sri B. D. Jatti became the Finance Minister and what happened to the previous Finance Minister. Has he resigned ? If he has resigned, will he be permitted to make a statement in this House as required under rule 154 :

"A member who has resigned the office of Minister, may, with the consent of the Speaker, make a personal statement in explanation of his resignation "

So, this House expects a statement by the previous Finance Minister, who has resigned.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I do not think there is any point of order involved. I am surprised that the Leader of the Opposition should have raised it. So far as distribution of portfolios and strength or composition of the Cabinet are concerned, I have received an intimation as to how the portfolios have been distributed amongst the Ministers. According to that, Sri B. D. Jatti holds the Finance portfolio and he is perfectly in order in making a statement.

With regard to the statement by the previous incumbent, I am again surprised that even after reading the rule the Leader of the Opposition should have raised it. It is optional to the Minister to make or not to make a statement. Not only this House but even the Speaker cannot compel the Minister who held the portfolio to make any statement. So, there is absolutely no point of order.

Sri S. SIVAPPA.—The Chief Minister has resigned and a new Chief Minister has been appointed, and he is Sri S. Nijalingappa. So, when the previous Chief Minister has resigned, this House expects the previous Chief Minister who has resigned. to make a statement as to